

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-07 EA-06

FRB-03 INR-07 IO-10 NEA-09 OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 FEA-01 ERDA-05 FPC-01

H-02 INT-05 L-02 NSC-05 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-03 SS-15

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TO SECSTATE WASH DC IMMEDIATE 6204

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PASS CEA FOR GREENSPAN, TREASURY FOR BENNETT AND COOPER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, ECON, OECD

SUBJECT: NEW AD HOC WORKING PARTY PROPOSED TO BE

CHAired BY VAN YPERSELE

REF: (A) OECD PARIS 7445; (B) OECD PARIS 6946

1. SUMMARY. OECD SECRETARIAT TRANSMITS COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIRMAN OF EPC, SIR DOUGLAS ALLEN, TO NATIONAL MEMBERS OF EPC REGARDING ESTABLISHMENT OF TEMPORARY AD HOC WORKING PARTY TO EXAMINE ECONOMIC, MONETARY AND FINANCIAL PROBLEMS ARISING FROM RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OECD COUNTRIES AND OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES. EPC CHAIRMAN ASKS THAT GIVEN COUNCIL ACTION, EPC SHOULD AGREE TO ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKING PARTY AND TO EMPOWER IT TO ELECT ITS OWN CHAIRMAN. EPC CHAIRMAN'S NOTE ASSUMES CONCURRENCE UNLESS HE HEARS TO CONTRARY

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BY MARCH 3L. END SUMMARY

2. SECRETARIAT HAS RELEASED NOTE DATED MARCH 25, 1975 TRANSMITTING LETTER FROM EPC CHAIRMAN SIR DOUGLAS ALLEN TO NATIONAL MEMBERS OF ECONOMIC POLICY COMMITTEE, REGARDING ESTABLISHMENT OF TEMPORARY AD HOC WORKING PARTY WHICH WAS SUBJECT TO COUNCIL DECISION ON MARCH 18 (REFTEL B).

3. TEXT OF LETTER FROM SIR DOUGLAS ALLEN TO EACH MEMBER OF EPC IS DATED MARCH 24, 1975 AND READS AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT

DEAR COLLEAGUE,

I HAVE BEEN FORMALLY NOTIFIED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL THAT THE COUNCIL AT ITS MEETING ON TUESDAY 18 MARCH:

"(A) INSTRUCTED THE ECONOMIC POLICY COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THE ECONOMIC, MONETARY AND FINANCIAL PROBLEMS THAT COULD ARISE IN THE RELATIONS BETWEEN MEMBER COUNTRIES AND OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES. THESE ISSUES SHALL NOT INCLUDE MATTERS RELATING TO INVESTMENT WITHIN THE MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT AND MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES;

(B) AGREED TO CREATE FORTHWITH TO THIS END, WITHIN THE ECONOMIC POLICY COMMITTEE' A TEMPORARY AD HOC WORKING PARTY OPEN TO ALL MEMBER COUNTRIES. THIS WORKING PARTY WILL REPORT AS APPROPRIATE TO THE ECONOMIC POLICY COMMITTEE;

(C) INVITED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO KEEP THE COUNCIL REGULARLY INFORMED IN REGARD TO THE WORK OF THE FOREGOING WORKING PARTY."

AT THE SAME TIME, THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT IN THE COUNCIL THAT THE WORK OF THE NEW TEMPORARY AD HOC WORKING PARTY SHOULD COMMENCE WITHOUT DELAY.

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IT IS NORMAL PRACTICE FOR THE ECONOMIC POLICY COMMITTEE TO ELECT THE CHAIRMEN OF ITS WORKING PARTIES. HOWEVER, IT WOULD UNDULY DELAY THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WORKING PARTY IF WE WERE TO WAIT UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC POLICY COMMITTEE ON 16/17 JUNE TO APPOINT A CHAIRMAN. I SHOULD THEREFORE LIKE TO SUGGEST THAT IN THESE EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES, AND BEARING IN MIND THE WISHES OF THE COUNCIL, WE SHOULD AGREE TO

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THIS TEMPORARY AD HOC WORKING
PARTY SO THAT IT CAN START WORK WITHOUT DELAY WITH
THE MANDATE LAID DOWN BY THE COUNCIL. I THINK IT
WOULD BE APPROPRIATE IN THIS INSTANCE FOR THE WORKING
PARTY TO BE EMPOWERED TO ELECT ITS OWN CHAIRMAN AT THE
FIRST MEETING, WHICH IT IS ENVISAGED SHOULD TAKE PLACE
ON 10 APRIL.

IF THE SECRETARIAT DO NOT HEAR FROM YOU TO THE CONTRARY
BY THE END OF MARCH I SHALL TAKE IT THAT YOU HAVE

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NO OBJECTION TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THIS WORKING
PARTY IN THE WAY I HAVE OUTLINED ABOVE.

YOURS SINCERELY, END TEXT

4. COMMENT

A) FYI. WHILE ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN SECRETARIAT AND SIR DOUGLAS ALLEN HAD ORIGINALLY CONTEMPLATED THAT ALLEN'S LETTER TO EPC MEMBERS WOULD SUGGEST APPOINTMENT OF VAN YPERSELE AS CHAIRMAN OF NEW AD HOC WORKING PARTY (AS IN FACT PUT IN WRITING IN SECRETARIAT'S NOTE REFERRED TO IN REFTEL A), WE UNDERSTAND THIS APPROACH WAS DROPPED DUE TO FRENCH PROTEST AT WHAT SEEMED TO THEM AN EXCESSIVELY PATENT RAILROADING OPERATION ON BEHALF OF VAN YPERSELE. SECRETARIAT DOUBTS THAT FRENCH HAVE ANY FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIONS TO VAN YPERSELE, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BUT THIS IS A POINT WHICH REMAINS TO BE CLARIFIED. ACCORDINGLY, APPROACH IN ALLEN'S LETTER IS THAT OF ALLOWING WORKING GROUP ITSELF TO ELECT ITS CHAIRMAN, ALONG LINES ORIGINALLY SUGGESTED BY VAN LENNEP.

B) UNLESS MISSION HEARS TO THE CONTRARY BY MARCH 31, IT WILL ASSUME THAT U.S. AGREES WITH PROCEDURE OUTLINED BY SIR DOUGLAS ALLEN. TURNER

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